

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 109734 TOSEC 110749

FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

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TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, MAY 5, 1976

NO. 49

MAGAZINES

CHARLES SANDERS -- JET, MAY 13, 1976: EDITOR'S NOTE;
ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER ON HIS HISTORIC
TREK TO AFRICA WAS CHARLES L. SANDERS, MANAGING EDITOR OF
EBONY MAGAZINE, JET'S SISTER PUBLICATION. SANDERS FILED
THIS REPORT FROM ZAIRE.

"UNRELENTING OPPOSITION"

WITH THOSE FORCEFUL WORDS, CAREFULLY CHOSEN TO STRIKE FEAR
IN THE HEARTS OF THE OPPOSED, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER
PROMISED THAT THE U.S. WOULD SUMMON AS MUCH INTERNATIONAL
PRESSURE AS NECESSARY TO MAKE RHODESIA'S GOVERNMENT CHANGE
ITS COLORS -- LITERALLY.

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IN A GLOBE-STAGGERING SPEECH MADE IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA --
ONE STOP IN KISSINGER'S SEVEN-NATION TOUR OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
TO DELIVER A NEW U.S. POLICY -- THE SECRETARY MADE IT
CLEAR THAT THE U.S. WOULD SHAKE RHODESIA FINANCIALLY UNTIL

THE WHITE MINORITY-RULED GOVERNMENT STARTED TURNING BLACK.

FIRST, THE FORD ADMINISTRATION WOULD WITHDRAW U.S. TRADE FROM THE IAN SMITH-GOVERNED NATION, CONGRESS WILLING. THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD ASK THE LEGISLATIVE BODY TO REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT WHICH ALLOWS THE U.S. TO IMPORT CHROME FROM RHODESIA IN VIOLATION OF UN SANCTIONS.

THEN THE U.S. WOULD WITHHOLD THE TOURIST DOLLAR. KISSINGER SAID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD ADVISE AMERICANS NOT TO TRAVEL TO OR LIVE IN RHODESIA BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT BE PROTECTED BY THE U.S.

NEXT THE U.S. WOULD ENCOURAGE NEIGHBORING NATIONS TO DO THE SAME. AS AN INCENTIVE, KISSINGER ADDED, THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO "ALLEVIATE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP FOR ANY COUNTRIES NEIGHBORING RHODESIA WHICH DECIDE TO ENFORCE SANCTIONS BY CLOSING THEIR FRONTIERS."

THE STRONG POLICY STATEMENT -- ONE OF 10 POINTS IN THE U.S.'S NEW "ATTITUDE" TOWARD AFRICA, A CONTINENT SURE TO EMERGE AS A FOCAL POINT IN THE INTERNATIONAL SENSE DUE TO ITS ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES -- MET WITH APPROVAL FROM THE PRESIDENTS OF THE FIRST COUNTRIES KISSINGER VISITED: KENYA (MZEE JOMO KENYATTA), TANZANIA (JULIUS NYERERE), ZAMBIA (KENNETH KAUNDA) AND ZAIRE (MOBUTU SESE SEKO).

BUT APPARENTLY GHANA'S APPROVAL, IF IT EXISTED, WAS NOT DESTINED TO BE RECORDED.

WHILE AIRBORNE ON A FLIGHT FROM ZAMBIA TO ZAIRE, KISSINGER WAS NOTIFIED BY U.S. AMBASSADOR TO GHANA SHIRLEY TEMPLE BLACK THAT HIS TRIP TO GHANA HAD BEEN CANCELED BECAUSE PRESIDENT IGNATIUS ACHEAMPONG WAS ILL.

LATER, GHANAIAN OFFICIALS ADDED THAT KISSINGER'S UNCLASSIFIED

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SCHEDULED VISIT WAS CANCELED DUE TO STUDENT UNREST AGAINST HIS ARRIVAL.

BUT U.S. OFFICIALS DID NOT ACCEPT EITHER EXPLANATION AND OFFICIALLY COMPLAINED TO GHANA AND CHARGED THE SOVIET UNION WITH INFLUENCING THE WEST AFRICAN NATION.

U.S. OFFICIALS FEAR THAT GHANA'S ACTION MIGHT HURT THE CHANCES OF GETTING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE REPEAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT AS WELL AS POPULAR DOMESTIC SUPPORT FOR ANOTHER IMPORTANT POINT OF THE U.S. POLICY: A TRIPLING OF FINANCIAL AID TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN NATIONS.

WEEKS BEFORE KISSINGER LEFT ON HIS AFRICAN TRIP, NIGERIA CANCELED HIS VISIT THERE, SAYING THE GOVERNMENT WAS TOO INVOLVED IN INVESTIGATING THE RECENT COUP ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH KISSINGER.

AFTER KISSINGER'S VISIT TO DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA, PRESIDENT NYERERE TOLD NEWSMEN THAT "THE WAR HAS STARTED" FOR BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA.

"IT CAN'T BE AVOIDED," NYERERE SAID. "THE UNITED STATES MIGHT NOT SUPPORT THE WAR. WE WILL NOT QUARREL WITH THAT. I DID NOT GET THE IMPRESSION THAT DR. KISSINGER WILL SUPPORT US IN PROSECUTING THE WAR."

KISSINGER WAS DUE TO VISIT LIBERIA AND SENEGAL AS JET WENT TO PRESS.

RADIO

KALB, CBS NAIROBI, FIRST LINE REPORT -- FOR THE LAST TEN DAYS OR SO, KISSINGER HAS BEEN EXPLORING AFRICA, AND VICE VERSA. NO ONE HAS YET WELCOMED HIM WITH A SLIGHT PARAPHRASE OF ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS LINES ON THE CONTINENT, NO ONE HAS YET SAID, "DR. KISSINGER, I PRESUME". BUT THEN AGAIN, KISSINGER'S REPUTATION HAS PRECEDED HIM TO AFRICA. IT WAS SIMPLY A QUESTION OF SETTING HIS WELL TRAVELED FOOT ON AFRICAN SOIL, AND HE'S DONE JUST THAT. IN FACT, HE'S DONE JUST THAT ON UNCLASSIFIED

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A VARIETY OF AFRICAN SOIL.

HE OPENED IN KENYA, THEN ON TO TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, ZAIRE, LIBERIA AND SENEGAL, BEFORE RETURNING TO KENYA TO ATTEND THIS WEEK'S OPENING OF THE MEETING OF UNCTAD -- THE UNITED NATIONS ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT. HIS SPEECH BEFORE UNCTAD TOMORROW WILL BE A KIND OF EXCLAMATION MARK TO THE KISSINGER DIPLOMATIC SAFARI THROUGH AFRICA. HE WILL UNVEIL A NEW AMERICAN PROPOSAL THAT, U.S. SOURCES SAY, WILL CALL FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES BANK, -- ITS AIM, TO ENCOURAGE THE INVESTMENT OF PRIVATE CAPITAL FROM THE WEALTHIER COUNTRIES INTO DEVELOPING RAW MATERIALS IN THE POORER COUNTRIES. MORE THAN 100 NATIONS HAVE GATHERED HERE FOR THE UNCTAD CONFERENCE, AND IT WILL NOT ONLY SERVE AS THE LAUNCHING PAD FOR SIGNIFICANT AMERICAN PROPOSALS; UNCTAD IS ALSO THE REASON WHY KISSINGER HAS SUDDENLY BECOME IMMOBILE, IF THAT'S THE RIGHT WORD.

THE FACT IS, THE DAYS PRECEDING UNCTAD PROVIDED A KIND OF BLURRED KISSINGER, NOT MENTALLY, MIND YOU, BUT PHYSICALLY. HE SEEMED AT TIMES LIKE AN APPARITION,

LEAPING FROM ONE COUNTRY TO THE NEXT IN HIS PURSUIT OF AFRICA, AS THOUGH HE WERE MAKING UP FOR LOST YEARS IN HIS EFFORT TO MAKE UP WITH THIS CONTINENT. IT WAS A COUNTRY-A-DAY, ALMOST, ALTHOUGH ZAIRE WAS DOWN ON HIS ITINERARY FOR TWO DAYS, AND ZAIRE, IT TURNED OUT, GOT A THIRD DAY WHEN GHANA SUDDENLY CANCELLED ITS INVITATION. IT WAS THE RUSSIANS AND THE CUBANS, CURIOUSLY, WHO CATAPULTED KISSINGER TO THE CONTINENT THAT HAS LONG FELT NEGLECTED BY WASHINGTON. THEIR VICTORY IN ANGOLA, AND THE U.S. POLICY DEFEAT THERE, SUDDENLY AWAKENED AMERICA TO THE FACT THAT ITS GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC POLICY WAS AFRICA-LESS.

KISSINGER WANTED TO RECTIFY THAT OVERSIGHT, AND THE RESULT HAS BEEN A WHIRLWIND TREK BY 707 ACROSS THE EXPANSE OF THIS VAST CONTINENT. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME NON-SERIOUS MOMENTS -- A POWER FAILURE THROUGHOUT THE ZAIREIAN CAPITAL OF KINSHASA SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF A KISSINGER NEWS CONFERENCE PROMPTED ONE REPORTER TO SAY, UNCLASSIFIED

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"DARKEST AFRICA". BESIDES NEGOTIATING WITH AFRICAN LEADERS, KISSINGER ALSO PUT IN A DAY ANIMAL-WATCHING, COMPLETE WITH A BORROWED BUSH JACKET AND A SAFARI HAT CONTRIBUTED BY ONE JOURNALIST. WHEN HE WAS LOOKING AT A PRIDE OF LIONS, A REPORTER ASKED KISSINGER WHETHER ANY OF THE BIG CATS REMINDED HIM OF PEOPLE HE'D NEGOTIATED WITH AROUND THE WORLD. HE LAUGHED, NO REPLY, BUT HE HAD EARLIER QUIPPED, "I'M NOT AFRAID OF WILD ANIMALS; I'VE GOT 17 OF THEM ON MY PLANE," A REFERENCE TO THE NEWSMEN WHO'VE BEEN TRAVELING WITH THE SECRETARY.

BUT THE SERIOUS SIDE OF THE TRIP HAS BEEN TO TRY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT AMERICA HAS EMBARKED ON A NEW ACTIVIST POLICY TOWARD AFRICA, AND THEREBY GIVE BLACK AFRICAN NATIONALIST LEADERS AN ALTERNATIVE TO RELIANCE ON SOVIET-CUBAN SUPPORT, ANGOLA STYLE. THERE'S BEEN SOME APPLAUSE FOR THAT NEW POLICY. THERE COULD BE MORE. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER ALL THOSE THOUSANDS OF WORDS SPOKEN BY KISSINGER IN AFRICA WILL BE FOLLOWED THROUGH BY WASHINGTON, THAT WHAT KISSINGER HAS BEEN SAYING IS FOR REAL, NOT FOR RHETORIC. OTHERWISE, KISSINGER'S TRIP TO THE CONTINENT WILL GO DOWN IN AFRICAN HISTORY BOOKS AS ALL TALK, AND NO ACTION.

NEWSPAPERS

WASH POST (MARDER) -- NOTHING IN MAY 5 EDITION. ONLY ARTICLE IS FROM "NEWS DISPATCHES" ON PAGE 18 WITH HEADLINE "RADICAL ARABS WANT TO BAR ISRAEL FROM TRADE GROUP."

NEW YORK TIMES (KAUFMAN) -- THE FIRST WEEK OF KISSINGER'S AFRICAN VISIT WAS PACED LIKE A STAMPEDE, AND ONE VETERAN OF MANY KISSINGER TRIPS SAID HE THOUGHT IT WAS MORE OF AN ENDURANCE TEST THAN A DIPLOMATIC MISSION. STILL, KISSINGER SEEMED TO THRIVE ON THE MOVEMENT. ...BUT KISSINGER APPEARED TO BE MOST MOVED BY A VISIT ARRANGED FOR HIM BY THE SENEGALESE GOVERNMENT TO THE ISLAND OF GOREE. ...AS HE LEFT AND THE DRUMS AND JOYOUS SONGS ACCOMPANIED HIM BACK TO THE BOAT, HE REMARKED, "IT MAKES YOU ASHAMED TO BE A HUMAN BEING." ONE ASPECT OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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TRIP THAT MUST HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR AFRICAN HOSTS TO UNDERSTAND WAS THE CONDUCT OF THE AMERICAN REPORTERS ACCOMPANYING KISSINGER.

MOST OF THE REPORTERS ARE PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND MANY HAVE DEVELOPED RITUALS OF FAMILIARITY AND BRASHNESS TOWARD THE SECRETARY TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM BEING OVERLY INFLUENCED BY HIS PERSONALITY AND BY THEIR PROXIMITY TO HIM. KISSINGER UNDERSTANDS THIS AND OFTEN ANSWERS THE INSIDE JOKES AND GIBES WITH MORE OF THE SAME.

BUT IN AFRICA, WHERE MOST OF THE PRESS IS GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED, MUCH OF THIS INTERPLAY MUST HAVE BEEN SEEN AS RUDENESS ON THE PART OF THE REPORTERS. IN ZAIRE, FOR EXAMPLE, AT A JOINT NEWS CONFERENCE HELD BY KISSINGER AND ZAIRE'S FOREIGN MINISTER, NGUZA KARI-I-BOND, THE ZAIRIAN REPORTERS STOOD POLITELY TO ASK THEIR WRITTEN-OUT QUESTIONS. THE AMERICAN REPORTERS SLOUCHED. JUST BEFORE THE CONFERENCE BEGAN, KISSINGER WAS TALKING TO MR. NGUZA WHEN ONE OF THE AMERICAN REPORTERS SHOUTED OUT, "MR. SECRETARY".

"JUST A MINUTE" MR. KISSINGER ANSWERED, SHOWING MINOR IRRITATION.

"OH THAT'S ALL RIGHT" THE REPORTER ANSWERED. "I JUST WANTED TO SAY HOWDY."

ON THE FLIGHT TO AFRICA, THE KISSINGER PLANE FLEW DIRECTLY FROM LONDON. ON THE RETURN FLIGHT TO PARIS ON THURSDAY THE PLANE IS TO MAKE A REFUELING STOP IN CRETE.

ONE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT NAIROBI IS A HIGH-ALTITUDE AIRPORT AND REQUIRES MORE FUEL FOR LIFTOFF, BUT ANOTHER REASON IS THE WEIGHT OF THE GIFTS THAT PARTY MEMBERS, FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF STATE TO TRANSLATORS TO SECRET SERVICE MEN, BOUGHT ALONG THE WAY. CARVINGS, SKINS, IVORY STATUES, TRIBAL MASKS AND ERSATZ TRIBAL MASKS FILLED THE HOLD AND OVERFLOWED INTO THE CABIN.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES (JOHNSTON) -- NOTHING IN MAY 5 EDITION.
ARTICLE APPEARED PAGE 4 USING AP WIRE ENTITLED "KISSINGER
WARNS AGAINST 'BLOC ECONOMIC POWER'"

WIRES

UPI (ANDERSON) FROM NAIROBI -- TRYING TO HEAD OFF A
CONFRONTATION BETWEEN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES, SECRETARY
KISSINGER HAS ASSURED THE WORLD'S DEVELOPING NATIONS THE
U.S. WILL "GO TO THE LIMIT" OF ITS OWN LAWS TO GIVE THEM
A BETTER ECONOMIC DEAL.

BUT IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS TUESDAY WITH DELEGATES ATTEND-
ING THE UNCTAD CONFERENCE, KISSINGER WARNED BOTH RICH AND
POOR COUNTRIES TO "AVOID ECONOMIC POWER BLOCKS" BECAUSE
"ECONOMIC CONFRONTATION" WOULD LEAD TO GLOBAL DISASTER.

KISSINGER WILL DELIVER A 90-PAGE SPEECH TO UNCTAD
TOMORROW SPELLING OUT U.S. EFFORTS TO BRIDGE THE GAP
BETWEEN THE HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS AND GIVE THREE-QUARTERS
OF THE WORLD'S POORER PEOPLE A BETTER STANDARD OF
LIVING.

HOSTING A DINNER TUESDAY NIGHT, KISSINGER DID NOT SPELL
OUT SPECIFIC U.S. PROPOSALS TO DELEGATES BUT SAID:
"WE HAVE GONE TO THE LIMITS OF OUR DOMESTIC POSSIBILITIES
IN THE PROPOSALS THE UNITED STATES WILL MAKE."

KISSINGER MET DELEGATES FROM THE WORLD'S MAJOR NON-
COMMUNIST INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS TODAY.

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